

Programs are limited to the first 15 participants. Please register at least one day in advance. Come out and enjoy your local natural areas!

December 4th
Coffee with the Birds & Plants at Walton Scrub
(9:00am - 10:30am)

Enjoy your morning cup of coffee with the birds and plants of Walton Scrub on Indian River Drive. A Naturalist will lead a walk through the unique scrub natural community and discuss the rare plants and their importance to local wildlife. Be sure to pack your cup-of-joe.

December 11th
Wildlife Walk at
Teague Hammock
(8:00am - 10:00am)

Experience a long morning walk through hammock and open grasslands, searching for wildlife. Geared toward hikers with the stamina to last the 2+ mile hike. Wear hiking apparel, and bring drinking water, cameras and binoculars as we trek over two miles.

December 11th
Stargazing Basics
& Meteor Shower
at Pinelands
(10:00pm - 1:00am)

Learn some stargazing basics and witness the best meteor shower of the year from Pinelands new observation tower. This site is west of town and away from the City lights. Call for more info. Bring binoculars and flashlights.

December 18th
Paleo Hammock Archeological Walk
(9:00am - 11:00am)

Learn about the early people of Florida with a walk back in time as we discuss the life histories of the Paleo-Indians and other early inhabitants of this area.

January 1st
Lil' Tyke Hike at Sweetwater Hammock
(10:30am - 11:30am)

The Preserve offers a short loop trail that winds through a young hammock. Join us for a scavenger hunt based hike for children ages 4-10. Children will learn about plants seeds and how to use their senses to truly experience nature.

January 8th
Coastal Plants & Worm Reef Construction
at Ocean Bay
(9:00am - 10:30am)

Ever wonder how early inhabitants of the coastlines treated toothaches? Unique coastal vegetation, including tropical hardwood hammock plants as well as beach dune vegetation is the topic of this trip, including discussion of how early peoples put these plants to use. Then head to the beach and learn about the complex worm-reef ecosystem just offshore.

January 15th
George Lestrangle Lil' Tyke Hike
(9:00am-11:00am)

Join us for an interactive nature program for children ages 4-10. Children will learn about habitat and wildlife through role play activities.

January 22nd
Owl Prowl at Paleo & Teague Hammocks
(6:00pm-7:30pm)

Whooh, whooh, whooh wants to see barred owls, screech owls, and great horned owls? A Naturalist will call our local feathered friends from under an oak hammock. Bring your flashlights and red cellophane wrap.

January 29th
Spruce Bluff Archeological Walk
(9:00am - 11:00am)

Discover a ceremonial Indian mound built thousands of years ago. Learn about the immense process of constructing it and the significance behind it. Along the way, we'll talk about various plants early Indians used for food, shelter and medicine.

February 5th
Day Hike at Pinelands
(2:00pm - 5:00pm)

A Naturalist will lead a hike through a set of unique flatwood natural communities that offer a variety of potential wildlife encounters. Learn a little bit about the plants, animals, and ecosystems alike while hiking the trail. Hikers should be prepared for a two mile hike with appropriate hiking shoes/boots and water.

February 12th
Indrio Savannahs Bird Hike
(8:00am - 10:00am)

Join the annual Great Backyard Bird Count. Volunteers count birds all across the continent and enter results into a database that provides a snapshot in time of how bird populations are doing. No experience is necessary. Bring binoculars and field guides, if you have them. Go to www.birdsource.org for more info.

February 19th
Owl Prowl at Pinelands
(6:00pm - 7:30pm)

Whooh, whooh, whooh wants to see barred owls, screech owls, and great horned owls? Staff will try to call in our local feathered friends. Please bring a flashlight.

February 26th
Gopher Tortoises at Walton Scrub
(9:00am - 10:30am)

Take to the trails with a Naturalist and learn about this Florida threatened species. Learn about their preferred habitat, foraging habits, natural history, and the importance of their burrows to other species.

March 5th
Stargazing at Bluefield
(7:00pm - 12:00am)

Calling all beginning stargazers! Learn to identify some of the planets and stars, miles from the city lights. The local astronomy club will have their professional telescopes to view. Bring a chair or blanket. Binoculars, red filtered flashlights, and bug spray are also recommended.

March 12th
10 Mile Creek
Birding Paddle
(8:45am - 11:15am)

You deserve a good paddling! Come experience a short paddle up creek with other intermediate paddlers to a remote rookery. Please bring your own canoe/kayak with safety gear. Meet at Ten Mile Creek Natural Area.

March 19th
Indrio Savannahs Birding
Trail Hike
(9:00am - 10:30am)

Bring your binoculars and come enjoy a peaceful morning among the birds of Florida. This site offers visitors a chance to view some of Florida's rare and endangered birds and belongs to the Great Florida Birding Trail. Birds commonly observed include; the Florida Scrub Jay, Bald Eagle, and a host of waders, raptors, songbirds, and wood peckers.

March 26th
Plant Invaders and Historical Hike at St. Lucie Village
(9:00am - 11:00am)

Come learn a little local history along with the plants invading St. Lucie County. A Naturalist will lead a hike to historic sites from the prohibition era and discuss plants to look out for in your own backyard.

April 2nd
Spring Wildflower Botanical Walk at Indrio Savannahs
(9:00am - 10:30am)

Celebrate spring by seeing what has bloomed in the flatwoods and in and around the depression marshes. If we are lucky we will see and identify a number of local butterflies and their host plants.

April 9th
Spruce Bluff Wetland Hike
(9:00am - 11:00am)

Leave the trail behind and prepare to get wet, this hike focuses on wetland function, plants, and all the critters in between. Spruce bluff has a unique wetland system bordering Scrub and Baygall habitat. Wear clothes & shoes that can be submersed.

April 16th
Amazing Amphibians at Indrio Savannahs
(7:30pm-9:00pm)

Learn about the natural history of the native and non-native frogs of Florida, participate in a fun hands-on exercise to learn some of their unique calls, and hike to wetlands to try to see them and hear their calls.

April 23rd
FL Scrub Jays at Indrio Savannahs
(9:00am-11:00am)

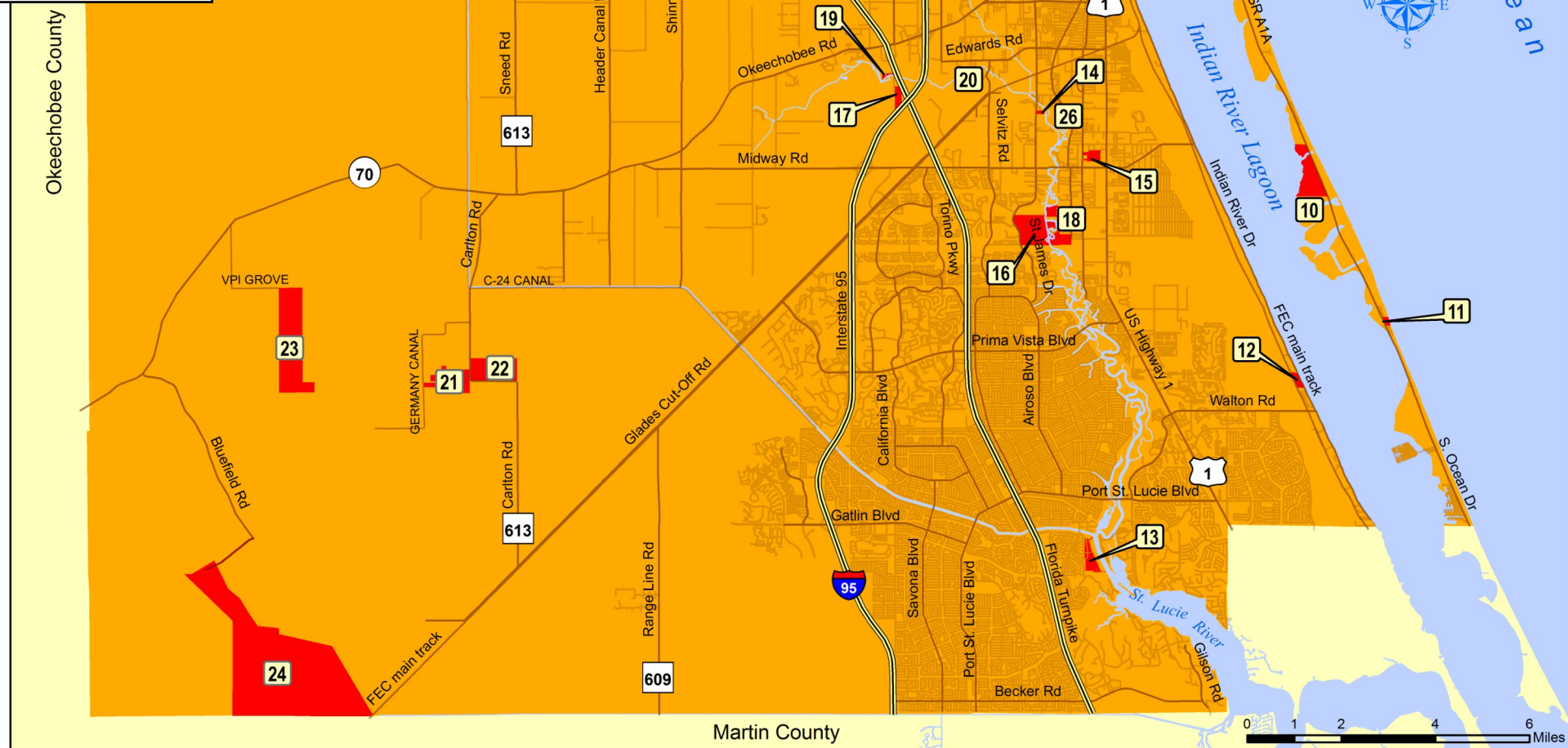
Come learn about the only bird species found in Florida and nowhere else in the world! Learn about the life history of this beautiful and unique bird, including the special habitat in which it lives and its "family values". Please bring binoculars if you have them; if we're lucky, we should be able to get a very close look at them. Bring binoculars.

April 30th
Butterfly Walk at Paleo Hammock
(9:00am - 11:00am)

Come visit Paleo Hammock, home to one of the best Florida butterfly viewing areas in the County. See host plants and hundreds of butterflies in their natural setting. Our butterfly expert will walk you through the trails and discuss great ways to attract them to your own backyard.

ST. LUCIE COUNTY NATURAL AREAS & PRESERVES

1. Indrio Savannahs
 2. Indrio Scrub
 3. D.J. Wilcox
 4. St. Lucie Village Heritage Park
 5. Queens Island
 6. Kings Island
 7. Wildcat Cove
 8. Sheraton Scrub
 9. Lakewood Park Natural Area
 10. Blind Creek
 11. Ocean Bay
 12. Walton Scrub (Spring 2009)
 13. Spruce Bluff
 14. Sweetwater Hammock
 15. Ancient Oaks
 16. Oxbow Eco-Center
 17. Gordy Road Rec. Area
 18. North Fork Parcels
 19. Ten Mile Creek Natural Area
 20. George LeStrange Natural Area
 21. Paleo Hammock
 22. Teague Hammock
 23. Pinelands
 24. Bluefield Ranch
 - *25. Greene Swamp
 - *26. Platt's Creek
- * Restoration Areas



Nature Program Schedule

Winter - Spring
2010-2011

St. Lucie County
Environmental
Resources
Department

Natural Areas
and Preserves



Environmental Resources
Department
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